



Conditions almost inviting at Sally

SPORTS, PAGE 1B

The Daytona Beach News-Journal

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF VOLUSIA & FLAGLER COUNTIES

THURSDAY
JANUARY 14, 2010

TODAY'S FORECAST

Lovely temps won't chill to the bone.
High: Mid-60s. Low: Upper 40s. PAGE 6C



BANKRUPTCY

Black Crow files for protection

YOUR MONEY, PAGE 8A

State cuts FPL rate-hike proposal

By JIM SAUNDERS

TALLAHASSEE BUREAU CHIEF

TALLAHASSEE — Pointing to the economic struggles of many customers, state regulators Wednesday slashed a Florida Power & Light proposal to raise base electric rates by \$1.2 billion.

The state Public Service Commission approved \$75.5 million in rate increases, just two days after also largely rejecting a \$500 million rate proposal by Progress Energy Florida.

FPL immediately reacted by saying it would suspend major projects, including development of two new nuclear reactors in Miami-Dade County. Company President Armando Olivera said the commission's decision will have a "chilling effect" on investors.

"Today, politics trumped economics, because there is no economic case for the decisions this commission has made," Olivera said as he left the meeting room.

During a more than nine-hour hearing, commissioners said FPL sought higher-than-justified profits at a time when many customers face financial problems.

"In difficult times, you have to look at what is fair, reasonable and appropriate," Commissioner Nathan Skop said.

SEE FPL, PAGE 5A

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Surrender operation nets 64 fugitives

By LYDA LONGA

STAFF WRITER

DAYTONA BEACH — Amelia Knowles is going to jail for 30 days and she's ecstatic.

Knowles, a fugitive with an outstanding warrant for dealing in stolen property, was one of 64 people who surrendered at a church Wednesday in the hopes that by doing so she would get special consideration from the law.

A mother and grandmother, the 39-year-old Knowles could have been released on her own recognizance until her court hearing, but she chose to start her 30-day jail term and get it over with.

"As soon as I heard about this I said, this is my chance to stop looking over my shoulder," said Knowles, a broad smile flashing across her face.

But a handful of other people who showed up to surrender were not as gleeful as Knowles and other fugitives who went to the Greater Friendship Baptist Church, hoping for a new start.

SEE FUGITIVES, PAGE 5A

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FACES OF SURVIVAL: Everyone in and around Port-au-Prince, Haiti, is trying to overcome the devastation of the earthquake.

▶ Capital Port-au-Prince flattened ▶ Aid pouring into poverty-stricken nation

A CITY CRUMBLES



Associated Press photos

WAITING FOR HELP: Injured victims sit along the side of the road Wednesday, the day after an earthquake struck Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The 7.0 magnitude quake is estimated to be the worst to hit the nation in 200 years.

Locals worry, wait for word from Haiti

By HEATHER SCOFIELD

STAFF WRITER

DAYTONA BEACH — As news trickled out of an earthquake-leveled Haiti on Wednesday, many locals with connections to the poverty-stricken country breathed sighs of relief after learning the people and causes they care about survived the disaster.

Many others, however, were still waiting for word and fighting overwhelming feelings of worry and fear.

"I don't know if they are still alive," Deltona resident and Haitian native Chesnel Jean-Mary said of his two sisters and parents, who live only minutes from the palace that collapsed in the wake of the quake. "It's hard to not know."

Jean-Mary's family is just one

of at least 20 he knows of in the Deltona area with family connections in Haiti. None has heard from their loved ones yet either, he said.

"It's the same story for everyone; we don't know what's going on," Jean-Mary said.

Most spent the night watching news reports, repeatedly trying to reach loved ones by phone and praying rather than sleeping, he said.

As their wait continues, churches and other organizations in the area are already mobilizing to help.

Meanwhile, a few Haiti-based charities led by locals in Volusia and Flagler counties confirmed

SEE HAITI, PAGE 10A

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New York Times

SEARCHING: People look through the rubble hoping to find survivors after much of Port-au-Prince was flattened by the earthquake.

How You Can Help Earthquake Victims

- Direct donations for Three Angels Children's Relief can be made online at ThreeAngelsHaiti.org.
- The Catholic Diocese of Orlando, under which the Catholic churches in Volusia County operate, has asked local

parishes to participate in a special collection for Haiti relief this weekend or Jan. 23-24. On those dates, any monetary donations will be earmarked for Haiti relief. Donations can also be sent to the Office of the Bishop, marked "Haiti Relief,"

at P.O. Box 1800, Orlando, FL 32802-1800 or to Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, Md. 21203-7090.

- The American Red Cross Mid-Florida Region is accepting donations at local chapter offices, by calling

1-800-RED-CROSS or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish), by texting "HAITI" to 90999 on your cell phone or online at MidFloridaRedCross.org.

- Mercy Corps, a global crisis relief agency, is accepting donations online

at MercyCorps.org.

- UNICEF is taking donations online at UNICEF.org
- The Center for International Disaster Information is also coordinating donations and relief efforts online at cidid.org.

—Heather Scofield

SEE CRUMBLES, PAGE 10A

FAST LANE

Keeping you on track for today, tomorrow

Volusia, Flagler's 2009 murder victims not forgotten
LOCAL, PAGE 1C



Coming Friday: 'The Lovely Bones'



Bank CEOs 'sorry' for mistakes

Wall Street executives said Wednesday they underestimated the severity of the 2008 financial crisis and apologized for risky behavior and poor decisions.

YEARLONG INQUIRY: As the hearings opened before the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, chairman Phil Angelides pledged "a full and fair inquiry into

what brought our financial system to its knees."

QUOTE: "We understand the anger felt by many citizens," said Brian Moynihan, chief executive and president of Bank of America. "Over the course of the crisis, we as an industry caused a lot of damage."

—Associated Press

■ MORE ON THE HEARINGS, PAGE 3A ■

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